

U.S. Department of Justice

Immigration and Naturalization Service

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JAN 1 0 2003 File: WAC 01 221 51479 Office: CALIFORNIA SERVICE CENTER Date:

IN RE:

Petitioner:

Beneficiary:

Petition:

Petition for Alien Fiance(e) Pursuant to Section 101(a)(15)(K) of the Immigration and

Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(K)

IN BEHALF OF PETITIONER: SELF-REPRESENTED

PUBLIC COPY

INSTRUCTIONS:

This is the decision in your case. All documents have been returned to the office that originally decided your case. Any further inquiry must be made to that office.

If you believe the law was inappropriately applied or the analysis used in reaching the decision was inconsistent with the information provided or with precedent decisions, you may file a motion to reconsider. Such a motion must state the reasons for reconsideration and be supported by any pertinent precedent decisions. Any motion to reconsider must be filed within 30 days of the decision that the motion seeks to reconsider, as required under 8 C.F.R. 103.5(a)(1)(i).

If you have new or additional information that you wish to have considered, you may file a motion to reopen. Such a motion must state the new facts to be proved at the reopened proceeding and be supported by affidavits or other documentary evidence. Any motion to reopen must be filed within 30 days of the decision that the motion seeks to reopen, except that failure to file before this period expires may be excused in the discretion of the Service where it is demonstrated that the delay was reasonable and beyond the control of the applicant or petitioner. Id.

Any motion must be filed with the office that originally decided your case along with a fee of \$110 as required under 8 C.F.R. 103.7.

> FOR THE ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER. **EXAMINATIONS**

Robert P. Wiemann, Director Administrative Appeals Office DISCUSSION: The nonimmigrant visa petition was denied by the Director, California Service Center, and is now before the Associate Commissioner for Examinations on appeal. The appeal will be sustained. The decision of the director will be withdrawn and the petition will be approved.

The petitioner is a citizen of the United States who seeks to classify the beneficiary, a native and citizen of Japan, as the fiance(e) of a United States citizen pursuant to section 101(a)(15)(K) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the Act), 8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(K).

The director denied the petition after determining that the petitioner had failed to submit credible documentary evidence to establish that he and the beneficiary had personally met within two years before the date of filing the petition, as required by section 214(d) of the Act.

Section 101(a)(15)(K) of the Act defines "fiance(e)" as:

An alien who is the fiancee or fiance of a citizen of the United States and who seeks to enter the United States solely to conclude a valid marriage with the petitioner within ninety days after entry. . . .

Section 214(d) of the Act, 8 U.S.C. 1184(d), states in pertinent part, that a fiance(e) petition:

shall be approved only after satisfactory evidence is submitted by the petitioner to establish that the parties have previously met in person within two years before the date of filing the petition, have a bona fide intention to marry, and are legally able and actually willing to conclude a valid marriage in the United States within a period of ninety days after the alien's arrival. . . [emphasis added].

The petitioner filed the Petition for Alien Fiance(e) (Form I-129F) with the Service on June 20, 2001. Therefore, the petitioner and the beneficiary were required to have met during the period that began on June 20, 1999 and ended on June 20, 2001.

On appeal, the petitioner submits copies of pages from the beneficiary's passport containing exit and entry stamps indicating that she traveled to Hawaii to meet the beneficiary on several occasions during the required time period. In addition, the petitioner submits a photograph of the couple together which contains a stamp showing that the film was processed on March 3, 2000.

The petitioner has established that he and the beneficiary personally met within the time period specified in section 214(d) of the Act. Therefore, the decision of the director will be withdrawn and the petition will be approved.

The burden of proof in these proceedings rests solely with the petitioner. Section 291 of the Act, 8 U.S.C. 1361. The petitioner has now met that burden.

ORDER:

The appeal is sustained. The decision of the director will be withdrawn and the petition will be approved.